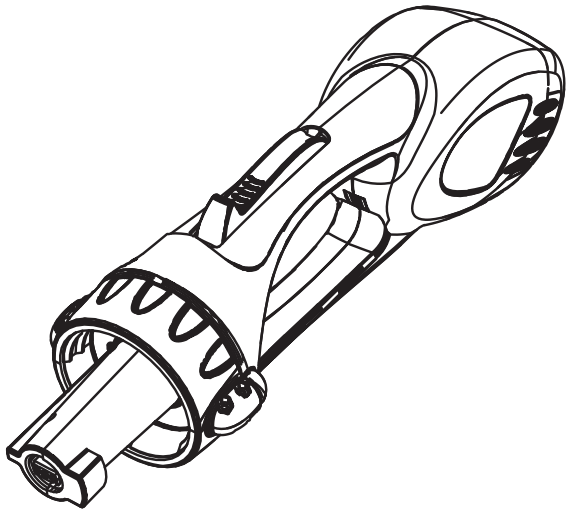
Operator's Manual

CRAFTSMAN®

Convertible Cordless 18V Power Handle

Model No. 71.74291



BEFORE returning this product, first call:
(800) 539-6455

IMPORTANT OPERATING HINT:

When starting unit, first push the thumb switch forward and then squeeze the control trigger. It is NOT necessary to keep the thumb switch pushed forward during use.

CAUTION:

Before using this product, read this manual and follow all its Safety Rules and Operating Instructions.

- **Safety**
- **Assembly**
- **Operation**
- **Maintenance**
- **Español**
- **Français**

Sears, Roebuck and Co., Hoffman Estates, IL 60179, U.S.A.

www.craftsman.com

rev. 040908

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WARRANTY

Craftsman One Year Full Warranty

If this Craftsman product fails due to manufacturer's defects within one year from the date of purchase, return it to any Sears store or other Craftsman outlet in the United States for free replacement.

This warranty applies for only 90 days if this product is ever used for commercial or rental purposes.

This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state.

Sears, Roebuck and Co., Hoffman Estates, IL 60179

READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS

SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

WARNING: Some dust created by using power tools contains chemicals known to the state of California to cause cancer and birth defects or other reproductive harm.

WARNING TO CALIFORNIA RESIDENTS: Handling the cord on this units (or cords with accessories sold for this product) will expose you to lead, a chemical known to the State of California to cause cancer, and birth defects or other reproductive harm. Please wash hands after handling the cord.

CRAFTSMAN CONVERTIBLE CORDLESS 18V TOOL SYSTEM

This product is for use only with the Craftsman Convertible Cordless 18V Tool System. Do not use the tool attachments with any other system or power source, and do not use any tool attachment on the power handle that is not intended for use with this system.

WARNING: When using this tool, basic safety precautions should

always be followed to reduce the risk of fire, electric shock, and personal injury, including the following:

To reduce risk of injury:

Before any use, be sure everyone using this electric product reads and understands all safety and operation instructions contained in this manual.

Save these instructions and review frequently prior to use. Store in wall charger slot.

AVOID DANGEROUS ENVIRONMENTS and weather conditions when using this tool.

KEEP CHILDREN AWAY - All visitors should be kept at a safe distance from work area.

STORE IDLE UNIT INDOORS - When not in use, the unit should be stored indoors in a dry location – out of reach of children.

DON'T FORCE THE TOOL - It will do the job better and with less likelihood of a risk of injury at the rate for which it was designed.

USE RIGHT TOOL - Do not use the tool for any job except that for which it is intended.

WARNING: KEEP HANDS AND ALL BODY PARTS AWAY from the blades. The blade edges are sharp and can cause injury even when the tool is OFF.

DRESS PROPERLY - Do not wear loose clothing or jewelry. They can be caught in moving parts. Use of gloves and substantial footwear is recommended when working outdoors. Wear protective hair covering to contain long hair.

DON'T OVERREACH - Maintain proper footing and balance at all times. Use both hands to operate unit safely.

USE SAFETY GLASSES - Always wear proper eye protection, and use a face or dust mask if operation is dusty.

MAINTAIN UNIT WITH CARE - Keep the unit clean for best performance and to reduce the risk of injury. Follow instructions for service. Keep handles dry, clean, and free from oil and grease.

UNINTENTIONAL STARTING - Don't carry any tool while holding the switch area. The unit is shipped partly charged, and may start inadvertently if not handled properly.

CHECK DAMAGED PARTS - If any component of the system experiences a hard impact, check that no parts were damaged and verify that the unit operates properly. Check for misalignment or bending of moving parts, breakage of parts, and any other condition that may affect operation. A part that is damaged should be properly repaired or replaced by an authorized service center.

STAY ALERT - Watch what you are doing. Use common sense. Do not operate the tool when you are tired.

DON'T GRASP THE EXPOSED CUTTING BLADES of the hedge trimmer or pole saw when picking up or holding the unit. Do not attempt to remove cut material nor hold material to be cut when blades are moving. Make sure the unit's switch is off and the battery pack is removed before clearing jammed material from blades.

DON'T GRASP MOVING LINE of the line trimmer. Do not attempt to remove cut material or hold material to be cut when the line is moving. Make sure the unit's switch is off and the battery pack is removed before clearing or changing line.

ATTACH LINE GUARD ON LINE TRIMMER ATTACHMENT - Before use, attach the line guard correctly.

See instructions on how to attach line guard in the Operation section of the line trimmer manual. Failure to attach the line guard may pose a risk of injury, may cause motor damage and will void the warranty.

USE A HARDHAT - Always wear a hardhat when cutting branches overhead with the pole saw to reduce the risk of injury from falling branches.

READ AND FOLLOW ALL SAFETY WARNING printed in the various tool attachment manuals.

To reduce risk when handling the battery:

DO NOT dispose of the battery in a fire. The cells may explode. Check with local code for possible special disposal instructions.

DO NOT open or mutilate the battery. Released electrolyte is corrosive and may cause damage to the eyes or skin. It may be toxic if swallowed.

EXERCISE CARE in handling batteries in order not to short the battery with conducting materials such as rings, bracelets and keys. The battery or conductor may overheat and cause burns.

To reduce risk when using charger:

DO NOT use charger outdoors or in wet conditions; use inside only.

DO NOT charge the unit when the temperature is below +40 F or above +120 F. It may lessen the service life of the battery.

This unit and its charger are designed to work together**. DO NOT** charge the battery with any other charger and **DO NOT** use this charger with any other yard tool or battery.

The charger is designed to operate on 120 volts. **DO NOT** attempt to use it at any other voltage.

Store these instructions by folding in half and sliding into the slot in the back of the wall charging rack.

SAVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS

OPERATION

CHARGE BATTERY PRIOR TO USE - The battery does not come fully charged when purchased. Before using the unit, the battery must be charged. Before charging the battery, read safety and charging instructions.

PROPER RUN TIME AND PERFORMANCE can only be obtained with a fully charged battery.

CHARGE TIME - Charging for approximately 1 hour is sufficient to replenish the battery to a full charge. Initial use, long periods of inactivity, or storage at extreme temperatures may require extended charge time.

WALL CHARGE BRACKET - Before charging the unit, make sure the charge bracket is securely attached to the wall; attach with screws to a wall stud. The use of wall board anchors is **NOT** recommended.

To Charge Battery:

1. Plug the charger into a 120 Volt AC outlet.

2. Place the Power Handle with battery attached into the wall charge bracket. It is not necessary to remove the tool attachment when charging the battery. (see figure 1)

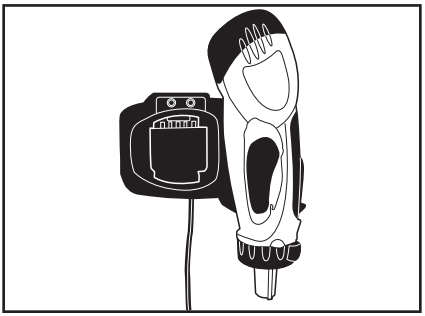

Figure 1

3. Charge for at least 1 hour.

4. The LED will glow red when the battery is charging and green when it is ready to use. If the LED does not illuminate when the handle is placed in the charge rack, check to make sure that there is proper contact between the handle and the charger base.

5. A second charging bay is provided on the charge rack to charge a second battery (not included). To charge a battery in this bay, insert the battery until it locks in place and the LED illuminates. (see figure 2) The LED will glow red when the battery is charging and green when it is ready to use. When charging two batteries (one in the handle and one directly in the charger), the charger will charge whichever battery was inserted first. Then when that battery is fully charged, it will automatically switch and charge the other battery. Each battery will take approximately 1 hour to charge (a total of 2 hours for two batteries).

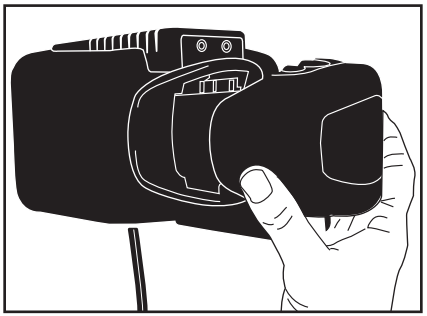

Figure 2

Charging Notes:

CAUTION: The charger can only be used with 60 cycle, 115-120 VAC electricity.

The charger unit plugged into the AC outlet will normally become warm to the touch during charging.

The charger automatically controls the charge to each battery and shuts of the charge when complete. The batteries can be left in the charger indefinitely and will not over-charge.

Longest life and best performance will be obtained when charging at normal room temperature.

Battery life is dependent on usage, storage temperature and time.

CONNECTING TOOL ATTACHMENT TO THE POWER HANDLE

Be sure to follow the following safety precautions when attaching and detaching tools from the power handle.

Remove the battery from the handle before attaching or detaching tools.

Never touch the control switches on the power handle when attaching and detaching tools

To attach a tool:

1. Twist the lock ring on the power handle to the unlocked position. (see figure 3)

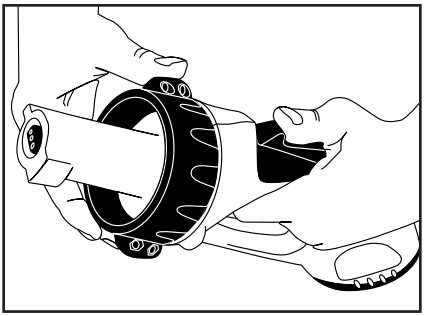

Figure 3

2. Insert the male end of the power handle interface into the female socket in the end of the tool attachment making sure that it is firmly seated. (see figure 4) The interface is keyed so that it will only go together one way. The handle and tool should go together easily. If you experience resistance in putting them together,

check that the keys on the handle are properly aligned with the slots in the tool.

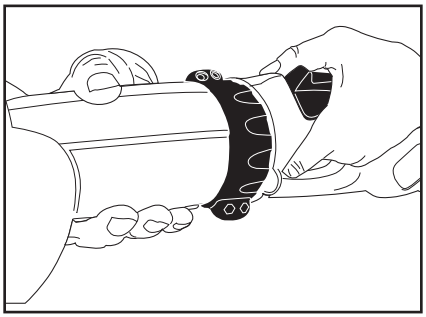

Figure 4

3. Grasp the tool attachment firmly with one hand (note, do not grasp on a rotating part such as the auxiliary handle), and twist the lock ring on the power handle to the locked position with the other hand. (see figure 5)

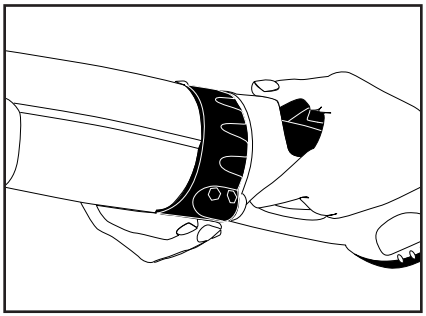

Figure 5

To detach a tool:

1. Grasp the tool attachment firmly with one hand (note, do not grasp on a rotating part such as the auxiliary handle), and twist the lock ring on the power handle to the unlocked position with the other hand. (see figure 6)

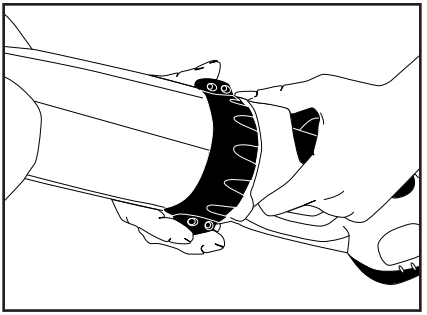

Figure 6

2. Pull the power handle and tool attachment apart. The power handle and tool attachment should separate easily. If they do not, check to be sure that the lock ring is in the fully unlocked position.

Attaching the Battery

1. Align the rib on the battery pack with the corresponding slot in the end of the power handle. (see figure 7)

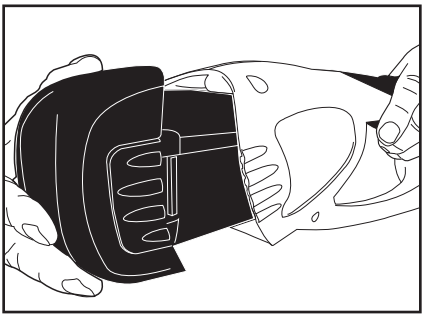

Figure 7

2. Insert the battery fully into the handle making sure that the spring-loaded buttons on each side of the battery pack snaps into place in the handle.

Removing the Battery

1. Depress the spring-loaded buttons on both sides of the battery simultaneously. (see figure 8)

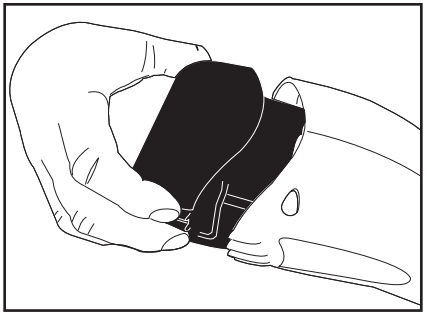

Figure 8

2. Pull the battery pack straight out from the handle.

To turn the tool on:

1. Grip the control grip firmly with one hand and grip the auxiliary handle on the tool attachment (if provided) with the other hand.

2. Push the trigger that your thumb rests on straight forward, this is the safety release. (see figure 9)

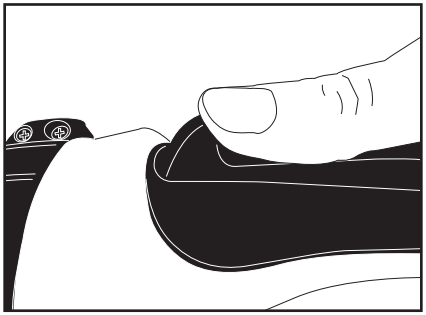

Figure 9

3. While holding the switch under your thumb in the forward position, use your fingers to pull upward on the control trigger. (see figure 10) This will energize the tool and allow you to do your work. It is NOT necessary to keep pressure on the thumb switch after the tool has started.

Please note that the tool will not start if the lock ring is not in the fully locked position.

Figure 10

To turn the tool off:

1. Release the control trigger and the tool will turn off. The thumb switch will return to the rear position to prevent accidental re-starting of the tool.

The power handle can be operated in two positions, normal and inverted, depending on the work you are trying to do. Depending on work position, both thumb switch or control trigger will release safety or activate tool, so it is not necessary to contort your hand when using the power handle in the inverted position. (see figure 11)

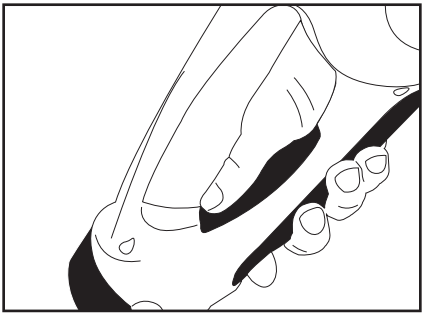

Figure 11

OVERLOAD PROTECTION

Some tool attachments incorporate overload protection devices such as fuses and circuit breakers. These devices will cause the tool to stop operating if an overload condition exists. See the individual tool

attachment manuals for instructions regarding these overload protection devices.

See the manuals for the individual tool attachments for specific instructions, precautions and tips for using those specific tools.

MAINTENANCE

See the manuals for the individual tool attachments for maintenance of those tools.

WARNING: Always remove the battery when performing any maintenance on the power handle or a tool attachment that is connected to the power handle.

WARNING: Always keep hands away from the triggers when performing maintenance on the power handle.

LUBRICATION - No periodic lubrication of the power handle parts is required.

CLEANING OF PLASTIC PARTS - Use only a dry brush or a cloth with warm water and mild soap to clean plastic parts. Many household cleaners contain chemicals which could damage the plastic. Never use gasoline, turpentine, paint thinner or similar fluids. Never spray-wash tool or immerse in water. Water or liquid inside the tool can cause serious damage to the unit.

DROPPING THE UNIT - If you drop the unit, carefully inspect it for any damage before using it again. Have the unit professionally repaired if damage has occurred.

STORAGE

TEMPERATURE – Temperature extremes limit the useful life of the battery. The best storage place is one that is cool and dry. Store the tool away from direct sunlight, heating pipes, furnaces, etc. Do not store where temperatures go below +40 F or above +120 F.

PREVENTING CORROSION - Fertilizers and other garden chemicals contain compounds that greatly accelerate the corrosion of metals. Do not store the appliance on or adjacent to fertilizers or chemicals.

ACCESSORIES

REPLACEMENT PARTS - For optimum cutting results and the assurance of top performance, it is recommended that only Sears Craftsman replacement blades and cutting line be used.

WARNING: Use only Craftsman accessories and replacement parts available from Sears. Use of non-Craftsman accessories could be hazardous. Call 1-800-366-PART.

BATTERY RECYCLING - To preserve natural resources, please recycle or dispose of this product's NICKEL-CADMIUM (NiCd) BATTERY properly. Local, state and federal laws prohibit disposal of NiCd batteries in ordinary trash. The manufacturer is a participant in the Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corporation (RBRC) recycling program. We have paid a fee to allow for these batteries to be properly disposed of via a RBRC collection site (various retailers are also RBRC participants). Please call the RBRC toll free number at (800) 822-8837 or visit the RBRC web site at www.rbrc.com to find a battery collection center near you.

SERVICE

If you see any condition that may affect safe operation, or if you have any questions, contact our customer service number at: **1-800-539-6455**

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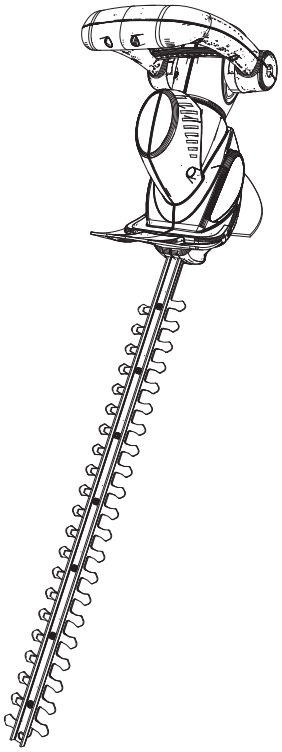
Operator's Manual

CRAFTSMAN®

Convertible Cordless 18V Hedge Trimmer Attachment

Model No. 71.74290



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Before any use, be sure everyone using this electric product reads and understands all safety and operation instructions contained in this manual.

SAVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS and review frequently prior to use. Store in wall charger slot.

AVOID DANGEROUS ENVIRONMENTS and weather conditions when using this tool.

DON'T USE HEDGE TRIMMERS in damp or wet locations and don't use in rain.

KEEP CHILDREN AWAY - All visitors should be kept at a safe distance from work area.

STORE IDLE UNIT INDOORS - When not in use, the unit should be stored indoors in a dry location – out of reach of children.

DON'T FORCE THE TOOL - It will do the job better and with less likelihood of a risk of injury at the rate for which it was designed.

USE RIGHT TOOL - Do not use the tool for any job except that for which it is intended.

WARNING: KEEP HANDS AND ALL BODY PARTS AWAY from the blades. The blade edges are sharp and can cause injury even when the tool is OFF.

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USE A HARDHAT - Always wear a hardhat when cutting branches overhead to reduce the risk of injury from falling branches.

READ AND FOLLOW ALL SAFETY WARNINGS printed in the tool attachment manuals.

CAUTION - Blades coast after turn-off.

SAVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS

OPERATION

CONNECTING TOOL ATTACHMENT TO THE POWER HANDLE

Be sure to follow the following safety precautions when attaching and detaching tools from the power handle.

Remove the battery from the handle before attaching or detaching tools.

Never touch the control switches on the power handle when attaching and detaching tools.

Please refer to the instruction manual for the Power Handle for proper operation of the Power Handle, battery and charger.

To attach a tool:

1. Twist the lock ring on the power handle to the unlocked position. (see figure 1)

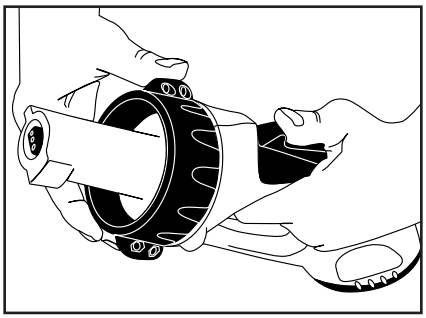

Figure 1

2. Insert the male end of the power handle interface into the female socket in the end of the tool attachment making sure that it is firmly seated. (see figure 2) The interface is keyed so that it will only go together one way. The handle and tool should go together easily. If you experience resistance in putting them together, check that the keys on the handle are properly aligned with the slots in the tool.

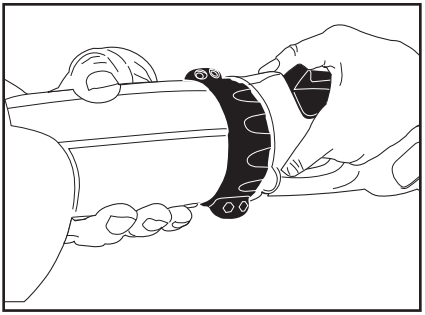

Figure 2

3. Grasp the tool attachment firmly with one hand (note, do not grasp on a rotating part such as the auxiliary handle), and twist the lock ring on the power handle to the locked position with the other hand. (see figure 3)

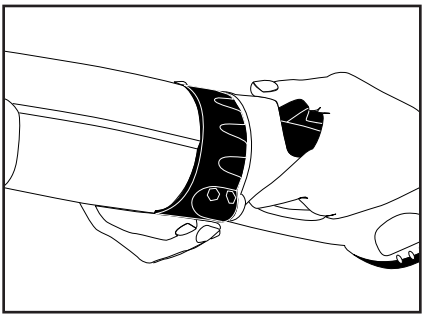

Figure 3

To detach a tool:

1. Grasp the tool attachment firmly with one hand (note, do not grasp on a rotating part such as the auxiliary handle), and twist the lock ring on the power handle to the unlocked position with the other hand. (see figure 4)

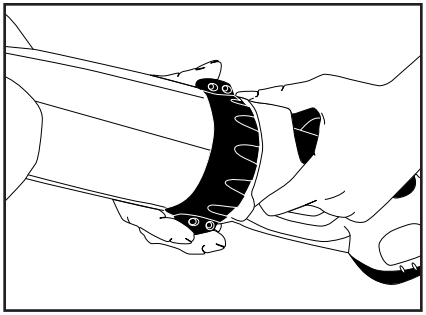

Figure 4

2. Pull the power handle and tool attachment apart. The power handle and tool attachment should separate easily. If they do not, check to be sure that the lock ring is in the fully unlocked position.

Attaching the Battery

1. Align the rib on the battery pack with the corresponding slot in the end of the power handle. (see figure 5)

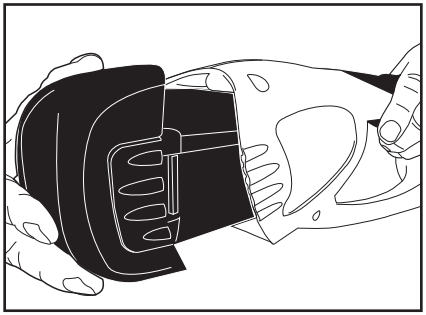

Figure 5

2. Insert the battery fully into the handle making sure that the spring-loaded buttons on each side of the battery pack snap into place in the handle.

Removing the Battery

1. Depress the spring-loaded buttons on both sides of the battery simultaneously. (see figure 6)

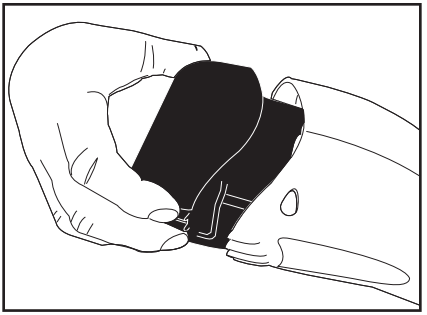

Figure 6

2. Pull the battery pack straight out from the handle.

To turn the tool on:

1. Grip the control grip firmly with one hand and grip the auxiliary handle on the tool attachment (if provided) with the other hand.

2. Push the trigger that your thumb rests on straight forward, this is the safety release. (see figure 7)

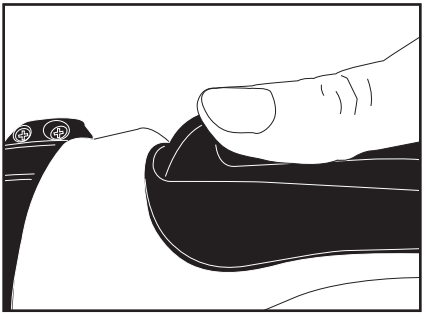

Figure 7

3. While holding the switch under your thumb in the forward position, use your fingers to pull upward on the control trigger. (see figure 8) This will energize the tool and allow you to do your work. It is NOT necessary to keep pressure on the thumb switch after the tool has started.

Please note that the tool will not start if the lock ring is not in the fully locked position.

Figure 8

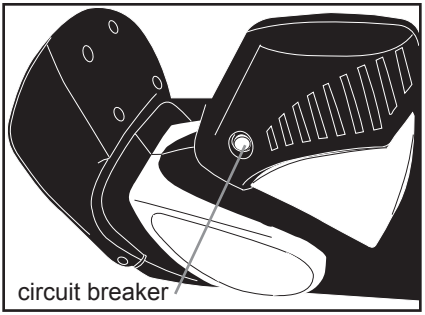

Figure 9

To turn the tool off:

1. Release the control trigger and the tool will turn off. The thumb switch will return to the rearward position to prevent accidental re-starting of the tool.

CAUTION - Blades coast after turn-off.

OVERLOAD PROTECTION

The hedge trimmer attachment incorporates a circuit breaker which will protect the hedge trimmer in the event of a prolonged stall. This device will cause the tool to stop operating if an overload condition exists. If the hedge trimmer becomes jammed on a branch, release the control trigger immediately. If, after clearing the jam, the hedge trimmer does not restart, check to see if the circuit breaker has popped (see figure 9). The circuit breaker can be reset by simply waiting 30 seconds and then pushing it back in until it clicks. You may then resume normal trimming.

Rotating Handle

The Craftsman hedge trimmer attachment has a unique rotating front handle which allows the hedge trimmer to rotate making it easier to trim the sides of hedges and allowing a greater reach when trimming the tops of tall hedges. The handle locks in any of three positions; upright, 90 degrees left, and 90 degrees right. To unlock the rotating handle, push in on the wide button located on the underside of the front handle grip (see figure 10). As long as you hold in on the button, the handle will rotate freely. When you release the button, the handle will lock in one of the three lock positions.

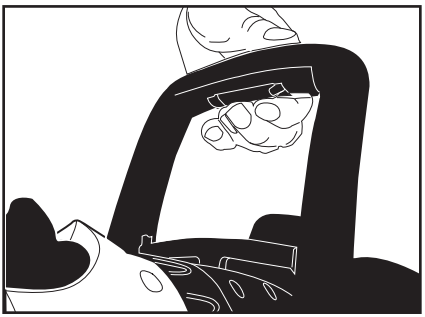

Figure 10

Trimming the Front of Hedges

To trim the front of hedges, push the handle release button and allow the trimmer to rotate through the handle as you sweep the blade across the

face of the bushes. (see figure 11) This technique will allow you to keep from twisting and contorting your body and makes trimming much more comfortable.

Figure 11

Extending Your Reach with the Rotating Handle

You can extend your reach when trimming the tops of bushes by rotating the handle to one of the 90 degree lock positions. Now instead of having to reach one hand all the way over the top of the hedge trimmer, you are simply holding it at a side position. (see figure 12)

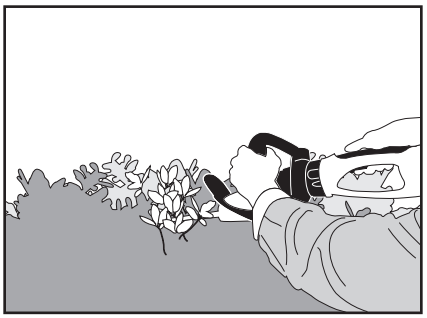

Figure 12

Of course, the hedge trimmer can be used as a conventional hedge trimmer just by leaving its handle locked in the upright position.

TRIMMING TECHNIQUES

Maintain proper balance at all times. Keep hand away from blades. Wear eye protection when using the unit. Hold the trimmer firmly with both hands and turn ON. (see figure 13)

Figure 13

The trimmer works best with dry hedges and bushes, but it can be used safely with wet growth due to the low voltage design.

A wide sweeping cutting motion away from the body is recommended, and will get the greatest amount of trimming per charge.

This unit should NOT be used for large trees and hedges with limbs in excess of 1/2 of an inch.

Watch out for foreign objects. Avoid trimming near wiring or other objects that could jam the blades or cause a hazardous situation.

CAUTION: If the blades become jammed or stalled on a branch, stick, or foreign object, release the trigger immediately. Failure to stop the unit when the blades are jammed will cause excessive battery drainage, shorten the motor life, and trip the circuit breaker

Clearing Jams

After the blades have completely stopped moving, carefully remove the obstruction

CAUTION: To prevent injury, keep hands away from trigger during

clearing of jams. To prevent injury, do not use the hedge trimmer with any damaged parts. If the unit continues to jam, call the service number listed below.

WALL BRACKET

Mount the wall bracket securely to the wall; attach with screws to a wall stud. The use of wall board anchors is NOT recommended. Place the tool attachment in the wall bracket as shown for convenient storage. (see figure 14)

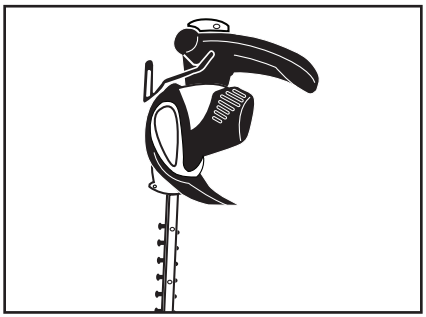

Figure 14

MAINTENANCE

WARNING: Always remove the battery when performing any maintenance on the power handle or a tool attachment that is connected to the power handle.

WARNING: Always keep hands away from the triggers when performing maintenance on the power handle.

LUBRICATION - No periodic lubrication of the power handle, accessory handle or gearbox is required. After each use, remove debris from the blades using a brush and wipe the blades dry with a cloth. Apply a small amount of machine oil or clean motor oil to all blade surfaces using a cloth to help prevent corrosion of the blades and prepare them for the next use.

CLEANING OF PLASTIC PARTS - Use only a dry brush or a cloth with warm water and mild soap to clean plastic parts. Many household cleaners contain chemicals which could damage the plastic. Never use gasoline, turpentine, paint thinner or similar fluids. Never spray-wash tool or immerse in water. Water or liquid inside the tool can cause serious damage to the unit.

DROPPING THE UNIT - If you drop the unit, carefully inspect it for any damage before using it again. Have the unit professionally repaired if damage has occurred.

STORAGE

TEMPERATURE – Temperature extremes limit the useful life of the battery. The best storage place is one that is cool and dry. Store the tool away from direct sunlight, heating pipes, furnaces, etc. Do not store where temperatures go below +40 F or above +120 F.

PREVENTING CORROSION - Fertilizers and other garden chemicals contain compounds that greatly accelerate the corrosion of metals. Do not store the appliance on or adjacent to fertilizers or chemicals.

ACCESSORIES

REPLACEMENT PARTS - For optimum cutting results and the assurance of top performance, it is recommended that only Sears Craftsman replacement blades and cutting line be used.

WARNING: Use only Craftsman accessories and replacement parts available from Sears. Use of non-Craftsman accessories could be

hazardous. Call 1-800-366-PART.

BATTERY RECYCLING - To preserve natural resources, please recycle or dispose of this product's **NICKEL-CADMIUM (NiCd) BATTERY** properly. Local, state and federal laws prohibit disposal of NiCd batteries in ordinary trash. The manufacturer is a participant in the Rechargeable Battery Recycling Corporation (RBRC) recycling program. We have paid a fee to allow for these batteries to be properly disposed of via a RBRC collection site (various retailers are also RBRC participants). Please call the RBRC toll free number at (800) 822-8837 or visit the RBRC web site at www.rbrc.com to find a battery collection center near you.

SERVICE

If you see any condition that may affect safe operation, or if you have any questions, contact our customer service number at:

1-800-539-6455

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